

KENTUCKY BOARD OF DENTISTRY

Laser Use by Dental Hygienists Task Force

Friday, October 21, 2011 at 3:00pm

KY Board of Dentistry Conference Room

312 Whittington Parkway, Louisville, KY 40222

****Approved****

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:30pm by Chairperson Mary Ann Burch, RDH at the Kentucky Board of Dentistry, 312 Whittington Parkway, Louisville, KY 40222.

ROLL CALL

Committee members present were Mary Ann Burch, RDH, Donna L. Fogle, RDH, CCRP, Dr. Doug McCall, Donna Ruley, RDH, and Dr. Susan King (Facetime) A quorum was met. Absent from the meeting were Dr. Mark Thomas, Dr. Henry Greenwell and Dr. Kathy King.

Dr. McCall and Dr. Greenwell corresponded prior to today's meeting regarding the agenda's issues and both concur with Dr. McCall's advisory statements.

DISCUSSION ON APPROVAL OF LASER USE BY RDHs FOR DEBRIDEMENT OF APTHOUS ULCERS AND HERPETIC LESIONS:

Dr. McCall stated that debridement and/or treatment of apthous ulcers and herpetic lesions by dental hygienists is acceptable as long as there has been appropriate training done by the dentist who employs the dental hygienist under direct supervision . Although treating apthous ulcers is basic, treatment of herpetic lesions require more caution and is performed only during the prodromal stage with no weeping.

DISCUSSION ON APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL WAVELENGTHS PRESENTED IN A SLIDE PRESENTATION:

The Task Force's Guideline Report presented to the KY Board of Dentistry in April, 2011 requires that the RDH have a hands-on component for every type of laser (i.e. diode, Nd: YAG, Erbiuums) the individual will be using. If the provider for laser training demonstrates several brands of the same type of laser at the course, the participants will become trained and certified in that type of laser. The important issue is the type of laser, NOT the brand name of laser. Since the requirements are for hands on training, the presentation of a different type of laser as a slide would not qualify the participants to be certified in that type of laser.

The Certificate issued by the KY Board of Dentistry should include the type of laser (diode, Nd:YAG, Erbioms etc) the individual actually trained on and the level of wavelength (or wavelength range) in nanometers noted. No brand names will be included on the certificate issued by the Board of Dentistry.

The acceptable wavelengths are:

Nd: Yag is 1064nm

Erbiums range is 2780 - 2980nm

Diodes range is 800 - 980nm

ADJOURNMENT

Donna Ruley motioned that the meeting be adjourned and Dr. McCall seconded. The meeting adjourned at 4:55pm. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna L. Fogle, RDH, CCRP

Secretary, KY BOD Laser Task Force Committee